

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

LISTING OF CLAIMS:

1. (Currently Amended) A connector for preventing a half fitting condition ~~comprises,~~
comprising:

a first connector, ~~including~~ comprising a tab terminal and a projection;

a second connector, ~~including~~ comprising a tab receiving terminal for electrical connection to the tab terminal and an elastic lock arm for sliding over the projection when the second connector is fitted into the first connector; and

a fitting detection member, mounted on the second connector so as to slide in a direction of fitting of the first and second connectors, wherein:

the fitting detection member is engaged with the elastic lock arm in a half fitting condition of the first and second connectors; ~~and~~

~~wherein~~ the fitting detection member is slidable to a completely-fitted detecting position in a completely-fitted condition of the ~~male~~ first and second connectors; and

~~wherein~~ a reduction member, which ~~reduce~~ reduces a frictional force generated by a contact between the projection and the elastic lock arm, ~~is~~ formed on at least one of the projection and the elastic lock arm.

2. (Currently Amended) The connector as set forth in claim 1, wherein the reduction member ~~has~~ comprises a recessed portion which reduces a contact area between the projection and the elastic lock arm ~~during~~ when the elastic lock arm slides over the projection.

3. (Original) The connector as set forth in claim 2, wherein the recessed portion is formed in a shape that ~~the contact area is decreased~~ gradually decreases in contact area between the projection and the elastic lock arm in accordance with a proceeding of during the fitting movement of the first and second connector.

4. (Original) The connector as set forth in claim 2, wherein the recessed portion has a curved shape in cross section.

5. (Currently Amended) The connector as set forth in claim 2, wherein the recessed portion has ~~either a rectangular shape or a triangular shape~~ in cross section.

6. (Original) The connector as set forth in claim 1, wherein the reduction member has at least one rib portion.

7. (New) The connector as set forth in claim 2, wherein the recessed portion has a triangular shape in cross section.

8. (New) The connector as set forth in claim 1, wherein the reduction member comprises a recessed portion formed in at least one of a first face of the projection and a first face of the elastic lock arm, and the respective first faces of the projection and elastic lock arm slide against one another as the first and second connectors are moved from a half-fitted to a completely-fitted condition.

9. (New) The connector as set forth in claim 8, wherein the recessed portion decreases in at least one dimension progressing from a distal to a proximal end of either the projection or the elastic lock arm.

10. (New) The connector as set forth in claim 8, wherein the recessed portion is a U-shaped concavity.

11. (New) The connector as set forth in claim 1, wherein the reduction member comprises a concavity formed in at least one of a first face of the projection and a first face of the elastic lock arm, and the respective first faces of the projection and elastic lock arm slide against one another as the first and second connectors are moved from a half-fitted to a completely-fitted condition.

12. (New) The connector as set forth in claim 8, wherein the concavity decreases in at least one dimension progressing from a distal to a proximal end of either the projection or the elastic lock arm.

13. (New) The connector as set forth in claim 1, wherein:
the fitting detection member is movable from a first position to a second position;
when the fitting detection member is arranged at a first position, the first and second connectors are in the half-fitting condition, and the elastic lock arm is axially outward of, and engaged with, the fitting detection member;
when the fitting detection member is arranged at a second position, the first and second connectors are in a completely-fitted condition, and the elastic lock arm is axially inward of the fitting detection member.

14. (New) The connector as set forth in claim 13, wherein the reduction member comprises a recessed portion formed in at least one of a first face of the projection and a first face of the elastic lock arm, and the respective first faces of the projection and elastic lock arm slide against one another as the first and second connectors are moved from a half-fitted to a completely-fitted condition.

15. (New) The connector as set forth in claim 14, wherein the recessed portion is a U-shaped concavity.

16. (New) The connector as set forth in claim 11, wherein the elastic lock arm is formed in a cantilever fashion from the second connector, and the portion of the fitting detection member that engages the elastic lock arm is an elastic retaining arm formed in a cantilever fashion from the fitting detection member.

17. (New) The connector as set forth in claim 1, wherein the reduction member comprises a rib formed on at least one of a first face of the projection and a first face of the elastic lock arm, and the respective first faces of the projection and elastic lock arm slide against one another as the first and second connectors are moved from a half-fitted to a completely-fitted condition.

18. (New) The connector as set forth in claim 17, wherein the reduction member comprises two ribs formed on lateral sides of either the first face of the projection or the first face of the elastic lock arm.

19. (New) A connector for preventing a half fitting condition, comprising:
a first connector comprising a tab terminal and a projection;
a second connector comprising a tab receiving terminal for electrical connection to the tab terminal, and an elastic lock arm;
a fitting detection member mounted on the second connector so that it is slideably movable relative to the second connector from a first position to a second position, wherein:

when the fitting detection member is arranged at a first position, the first and second connectors are in a half-fitting condition, and the elastic lock arm is axially outward of, and engaged with, the fitting detection member;

when the fitting detection member is arranged at a second position, the first and second connectors are in a completely-fitted condition, and the elastic lock arm is axially inward of the fitting detection member;

a friction reducing recess is formed in one of a first face of the projection or a first face of the elastic lock arm; and

the respective first faces of the projection and elastic lock arm slide against one another as the first and second connectors are moved from a half-fitted to a completely-fitted condition.

20. (New) The connector as set forth in claim 19, wherein the friction reducing recess decreases in at least one dimension progressing from a distal to a proximal end of either the projection or the elastic lock arm.